

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for assigning a slot~~[[-]]~~_cycle ~~index~~ within a communication system, the method comprising the steps of:

determining a duration of a first slot cycle for a first plurality of remote units that operate in a first service but not a second service;

determining a duration of a second slot cycle for a second plurality of remote units that operate in the second service;

assigning the first slot cycle duration to the first plurality of remote units; and

assigning the second slot cycle duration to the second plurality of remote units.

2. Canceled

3. Canceled

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of assigning the first slot cycle duration to the first plurality of remote units comprises the step of transmitting a first message over a paging channel, the first message comprising the first slot cycle.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of ~~broadcasting~~ assigning the second slot cycle duration to the second plurality of remote units comprises the step of transmitting a second message over the paging channel, the second message comprising the second slot cycle.

6. (Currently Amended) A method comprising the steps of:

determining a mode of operation;

receiving a first slot cycle;

receiving a second slot cycle; and

using a duration of the first slot cycle when operating in a first mode of operation otherwise using a duration of the second slot cycle when operating in a second mode of operation.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the step of determining the mode of operation comprises the step of determining a mode of operation taken from the group consisting of a dispatch mode of operation and a non-dispatch mode of operation.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the step of using the duration of the first slot cycle when operating in the first mode of operation otherwise using the duration of the second slot cycle when operating in the second mode of operation, comprises the step of using the duration of the first slot cycle when operating in a dispatch only mode of operation, otherwise using the duration of the second slot cycle during a non-dispatch mode of operation.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the step of using the duration of the first slot cycle when operating in a first mode of operation otherwise using the duration of the second slot cycle when operating in a second mode of operation further comprises the step of using both the duration of the first and the second slot cycles simultaneously when operating in both the first and second mode.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

first transmission circuitry having as an input, a first slot cycle duration, the first transmission circuitry broadcasting the first slot cycle duration to a first plurality of remote units utilizing a first mode of operation; and

second transmission circuitry having as an input, a second slot cycle duration, the second transmission circuitry broadcasting the second slot cycle duration to a second plurality of remote units utilizing a second mode of operation.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the first transmission circuitry is paging channel transmission circuitry.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the second transmission circuitry is paging channel transmission circuitry.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the first plurality of remote units comprise remote units operating in a dispatch mode.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the second plurality of remote units comprise remote units operating in a non-dispatch mode.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a receiver receiving a first and a second slot cycle duration; and

logic circuitry coupled to the receiver, the logic circuitry determining a mode of operation from the first and second slot cycle durations and utilizes the first slot cycle duration when operating in a first mode of operation, otherwise utilizes the second slot cycle duration when operating in a second mode of operation.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the logic circuitry utilizes the first slot cycle duration when operating in a dispatch mode, otherwise utilizes the second slot cycle duration when operating in a non-dispatch mode.

17. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second service taken from a group consisting of a dispatch mode of operation and a non-dispatch mode of operation.